AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method in a host computer having a server configured for providing web based management of host computers in communication via an open protocol network, the method comprising:

first receiving, by the server and from a user, a web-based user request ~~requiring~~ specifying execution of a management operation by at least one selected host computer specified in the web-based user request, each host computer having an application resource for executing corresponding application operations and a management resource for executing the management operation;

first outputting from the server to the at least one selected host computer a web request generated by the server based on executing the web-based user request, the web request specifying a management command for execution of the management operation by the management resource of the at least one selected host computer;

second receiving by the server from the at least one selected host computer a web response that specifies information based on execution of the management operation; and

second outputting by the server to the user a web-based user response based on the web response.

2. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1, wherein the first receiving step includes receiving the web-based user request according to hypertext transport (HTTP) protocol.

3. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 2, further comprising detecting a presence of the host computers on the open protocol network.

4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 3, further comprising third outputting by the server to the user a web page that specifies the host computers and available management operations for the host computers, the first receiving step further including

receiving the web-based user request as an HTTP post having request information based on a user selection from the web page.

5. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 2, wherein the first outputting step includes inserting within the web request an identifier specifying execution by the management resource within the at least one selected host computer, and outputting the web request according to an HTTP post operation.

6. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 5, wherein the first outputting step further includes specifying at least one of a backup operation, a file transfer operation, and a status report operation as the management operation.

7. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 6, wherein the second receiving step includes receiving at least one of a backup acknowledgment, a transferred file, and a status report in response to the management operation specifying at least one of a backup operation, a file transfer operation, and a status report operation, respectively.

8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 2, wherein the at least one selected host computer is said host computer having the server as the corresponding application resource, ~~and~~ the first outputting step includes outputting the web request ~~from the application resource of the server, configured for executing the outputting step~~ to an HTTP interface within the ~~server~~ host computer having the server.

9. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 8, further comprising:

third receiving the web request from the HTTP interface by the corresponding management resource of the host computer having the server;

executing the management operation specified by the web request by the management resource of the host computer having the server; and

third outputting to the HTTP interface, by the management resource of the host computer having the server, the web response that specifies the information based on execution of the management operation.

10. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 9, further comprising:

generating by the management resource of the host computer having the server a second web request for execution of a second management operation by at least a second host computer of the open protocol network, the second management operation necessary for execution of the management operation;

fourth outputting the second web request by the management resource of the host computer having the server to the at least second host computer; and

fourth receiving by the management resource of the host computer having the server from the at least second host computer a second web response that specifies information based on execution of the second management operation, the web response generated based on the second web response.

11. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A ~~server~~ host computer configured for providing web based management of host computers in communication via an open protocol network, a server comprising:

a web based interface configured for receiving a web-based user request from a user and outputting a web page, the web based interface configured for outputting a web request to an identified host computer and receiving a web response from the identified host computer; and

an executable server application configured for identifying the identified host computer specified in the web-based user request for execution of a management operation specified in the web-based user request and necessary for generating the web page in response to the web-based user request, the executable server application generating within the web request an identifier that specifies execution of the management operation by a management resource within the

identified host computer, the executable server application generating the web page based on results of execution of the management operation specified within the web response.

12. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The ~~server~~ host computer of claim 11, wherein the web based interface is configured for receiving the web-based user request according to hypertext transport (HTTP) protocol, the executable server application generating the web request according to an HTTP post operation.

13. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The ~~server~~ host computer of claim 12, further comprising a software resource configured for detecting a presence of the host computers on the open protocol network.

14. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The ~~server~~ host computer of claim 13, wherein the executable server application specifies within the web page the host computers and available management operations for the host computers.

15. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The ~~server~~ host computer of claim 11, wherein the executable server application specifies within the web request at least one of a backup operation, a file transfer operation, and a status report operation as the management operation.

16. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The ~~server~~ host computer of claim 11, further comprising a second management resource configured for executing a specified management operation in response to a second web request received by the web based interface, the second management resource configured for outputting to the web based interface a second response that specifies second results of execution of the corresponding specified management operation specified by the second web request.

17. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The ~~server~~ host computer of claim 16, wherein the identifier in the web request specifies the second management resource executed within the ~~server~~ host computer.

18. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The ~~server~~ host computer of claim 16, wherein the executable server application and the second management resource each are configured for selectively responding to an HTTP request received by the web based interface based on a corresponding identifier within the HTTP request.

19. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A system configured for performing distributed computing operations, the system comprising:

a plurality of host computers configured for communication via an Internet protocol (IP) network, each host computer including:

(1) a web interface configured for sending and receiving web requests and web responses,

(2) a corresponding application resource configured for performing corresponding application operations, and

(3) a management client resource configured for executing prescribed management operations in response to respective web requests received by the corresponding web interface, the management client resource configured for outputting a web response that specifies results of execution of a selected management operation in response to a received web request;

wherein the application resource of one of the host computers ~~includes~~ is implemented as a web based management server resource ~~as the corresponding application resource, the web based management server resource~~ configured for: (1) generating the web request for execution of the selected management operation by at least one selected host computer in response to reception from a user of a web request ~~from a user~~ that specifies the selected management operation and the at least one selected host computer, and (2) outputting to the user a web-based user response based on the corresponding web response from the at least one selected host computer.

20. (ORIGINAL) The system of claim 19, wherein each web interface is configured for sending and receiving web requests and web responses according to HTTP protocol.

21. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The system of claim 20, wherein the web based management server resource and each of the management client resources are configured for outputting web requests as HTTP post operations.

22. (ORIGINAL) The system of claim 21, wherein the one host computer further includes a software resource configured for detecting a presence of the host computers on the IP network.

23. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The system of claim 22, wherein the web based management server resource is configured for generating for the user a web page that specifies the host computers and available management operations for the host computers, the web request from the user including information based on a user selection from the web page.

24. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The system of claim 23, wherein the web based management server resource specifies within the web request at least one of a backup operation, a file transfer operation, and a status report operation as the management operation.

25. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The system of claim 20, wherein each management client resource is configured for generating a second web request to a management client resource of another one of the host computers for execution of a second management operation necessary for execution of the corresponding management operation by said each management client resource, said another one of the host computers executing the second management operation in response to the second web request and returning to ~~send~~ said each management client resource a corresponding web response that specifies information based on execution of the second management operation.

26. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer readable medium having stored thereon sequences of instructions for providing web based management of host computers in communication via an open protocol network, the sequences of instructions including instructions for performing the steps of:

first receiving, from a user and by a server executed in one of the host computers, a web-based user request ~~requiring~~ specifying execution of a management operation by at least one selected host computer specified in the web-based user request, each host computer having an application resource for executing corresponding application operations and a management resource for executing the management operation;

first outputting from the server to the at least one selected host computer a web request generated by the server based on executing the web-based user request, the web request specifying a management command for execution of the management operation by the management resource of the at least one selected host computer;

second receiving by the server from the at least one selected host computer a web response that specifies information based on execution of the management operation; and

second outputting by the server to the user a web-based user response based on the web response.

27. (ORIGINAL) The medium of claim 26, wherein the first receiving step includes receiving the web-based user request according to hypertext transport (HTTP) protocol.

28. (ORIGINAL) The medium of claim 27, further comprising instructions for performing the step of detecting a presence of the host computers on the open protocol network.

29. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The medium of claim 28, further comprising instructions for performing the step of third outputting by the server to the user a web page that specifies the host computers and available management operations for the host computers, the

first receiving step further including receiving the web-based user request as an HTTP post having request information based on a user selection from the web page.

30. (ORIGINAL) The medium of claim 27, wherein the first outputting step includes inserting within the web request an identifier specifying execution by the management resource within the at least one selected host computer, and outputting the web request according to an HTTP post operation.

31. (ORIGINAL) The medium of claim 30, wherein the first outputting step further includes specifying at least one of a backup operation, a file transfer operation, and a status report operation as the management operation.

32. (ORIGINAL) The medium of claim 31, wherein the second receiving step includes receiving at least one of a backup acknowledgment, a transferred file, and a status report in response to the management operation specifying at least one of a backup operation, a file transfer operation, and a status report operation, respectively.

33. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The medium of claim 27, wherein the at least one selected host computer is said one host computer executing the server as the corresponding application resource, ~~and~~ the first outputting step includes outputting the web request ~~from the application resource of the server, configured for executing the outputting step~~ to an HTTP interface within the one host computer executing the server.

34. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The medium of claim 33, further comprising instructions for performing the steps of:

third receiving the web request from the HTTP interface by the corresponding management resource of the one host computer executing the server;

executing the management operation specified by the web request by the management resource of the one host computer executing the server; and

third outputting to the HTTP interface, by the management resource of the one host computer executing the server, the web response that specifies the information based on execution of the management operation.

35. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The medium of claim 34, further comprising instructions for performing the steps of:

generating by the management resource of the one host computer executing the server a second web request for execution of a second management operation by at least a second host computer of the open protocol network, the second management operation necessary for execution of the management operation;

fourth outputting the second web request by the management resource of the one host computer having the server to the at least second host computer; and

fourth receiving by the management resource of the one host computer executing the server from the at least second host computer a second web response that specifies information based on execution of the second management operation, the web response generated based on the second web response.

36. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A host computer ~~server~~ configured for providing web based management of host computers in communication via an open protocol network, the ~~server~~ host computer comprising:

means for first receiving, from a user, a web-based user request ~~requiring~~ specifying execution of a management operation by at least one selected host computer specified in the web-based user request, each host computer having an application resource means for executing corresponding application operations and a management resource means for executing the management operation;

server means as the corresponding application resource means, the server means configured for first outputting to the at least one selected host computer a web request generated by the server based on executing the web-based user request, the web request specifying a management command for execution of the management operation by the management resource means of the at least one selected host computer;

the means for first receiving the web-based user request configured for second receiving from the at least one selected host computer a web response that specifies information based on execution of the management operation; and

the server means configured for second outputting to the user a web-based user response based on the web response.

37. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The ~~server~~ host computer of claim 36, wherein the first receiving means is configured for receiving the web-based user request according to hypertext transport (HTTP) protocol.

38. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The ~~server~~ host computer of claim 37, further comprising means for detecting a presence of the host computers on the open protocol network.

39. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The ~~server~~ host computer of claim 38, ~~further comprising means~~ wherein the server means is configured for third outputting to the user a web page that specifies the host computers and available management operations for the host computers, the first receiving ~~step~~ means configured for receiving the web-based user request as an HTTP post having request information based on a user selection from the web page.

40. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The ~~server~~ host computer of claim 37, wherein the ~~first outputting~~ server means is configured for inserting within the web request an identifier specifying execution by the management resource within the at least one selected host computer, and outputting the web request according to an HTTP post operation.

41. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The ~~server~~ host computer of claim 40, wherein the ~~first outputting~~ server means is configured for specifying at least one of a backup operation, a file transfer operation, and a status report operation as the management operation.

42. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The ~~server~~ host computer of claim 41, wherein the ~~second~~ first receiving means is configured for receiving at least one of a backup acknowledgment, a transferred file, and a status report in response to the management operation specifying at least one of a backup operation, a file transfer operation, and a status report operation, respectively.

43. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The ~~server~~ host computer of claim 37, wherein the at least one selected host computer is said host computer having the server means as the corresponding application resource means ~~and the first outputting means is configured for outputting the web request from the application resource of the server, configured for executing the outputting step to an HTTP interface within the server~~.

44. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The ~~server~~ host computer of claim 43, ~~further comprising~~ wherein:

the corresponding management resource means is configured for third receiving the web request, ~~from the HTTP interface by the corresponding management resource of the server; means for~~ executing the management operation specified by the web request by the management resource of the server[[;]], and ~~means for third~~ outputting to the ~~HTTP interface~~ first receiving means the web response that specifies the information based on execution of the management operation.

45. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The ~~server~~ host computer of claim 44, wherein the management resource means further is configured for ~~further comprising~~:

~~means for~~ generating ~~by the management resource of the server~~ a second web request for execution of a second management operation by at least a second host computer of the open protocol network, the second management operation necessary for execution of the management operation;

~~means for fourth~~ outputting the second web request by the management resource of the server to the at least second host computer; and

~~means for fourth~~ receiving from the at least second host computer a second web response that specifies information based on execution of the second management operation, the web response generated based on the second web response.